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Finally, *Message* discusses more speculative issues, the thorny issue of mail gateways and then a high-level discussion of issues and developments in our electronic-mail future.

Included in the appendices are specific references to finding the available Internet standards (RFCs) and MIME software. Then the final words in *Message* are a reprinted paper from a conference where Rose provides his perspective on the future of OSI—a dismal future.

Value

The greatest value in *Message* is the bringing together of information on various electronic mail activities and technologies. Finding a single source of reference to topics such a basic SMTP and RFC 822 mail through the PEM and MIME work will be an invaluable asset to those working in these areas. Additionally, *Message,* is loaded with good examples of the matters discussed in the text and strong discussions surrounding the issues and the author's perspective.

Conclusions

The Internet Message is a "must read" for those involved with the electronic mail industry or research communities. It fills a noticeable gap in existing literature by covering the Internet perspective on electronic mail. *Message* is not a book that addresses lots of implementation issues—instead it plows through the issues relating to what variations on real implementation are good for. In fact, implementors looking for a heady technical discussion may find that *Message* falls short of Rose's previous works.

The bottom line—Rose's perspectives are not without controversy but he is one of the best authors in the industry—*The Internet Message* is worthy of prime shelf space for anyone involved in electronic mail (except those hanging onto the X.400 dream).

—Chris Moore, General Magic

Exploring the Internet: A Technical Travelogue, by Carl Malamud, Prentice-Hall, ISBN 0-13-296898-3, 1992. *[This book will be included with the INTEROP 92 Fall conference proceedings —Ed.]*

Great

It is indeed a pleasure to review *Exploring the Internet.* Of course, since you've already read two installments of this book ("Internet Explorer in Japan," May 1992, and "The Guy with the Bike," August 1992), you don't need to read this review. You already know that the book is going to be great.

What then remains to be said? Malamud's book reminds me of the style used by Douglas Adams' in his *Last Chance to See* (Harmony Books, ISBN 0-517-58215-5) in which Adams and zoologist Mark Carwardine get to circle the globe visiting endangered species. Along the way Adams both amuses and amazes with his description of current and past events and the people who take part.

Heroes and villains

So it is with Malamud's *Exploring the Internet.* As Malamud circles the globe, he finds out about current and past events in networking. Along the way, he gets to meet the heroes and the villains who are a part of those events. Forgive me for being crassly commercial here, but the best advice I can give you is to go to INTEROP Fall 92 and get the book. If you can't get to INTEROP, then call up Prentice Hall (they have an 800 number in the US) and order it. Read the book, you will be both informed and amused. Nothing more need be said.

—Marshall Rose

continued on next page